

REMARKS

The application has been examined for restriction purposes only. The Examiner alleges that pending claims 1 to 45 are directed to two independent and patentably distinct inventions, as follows:

Group I : Claims 1 through 34, directed to a method of reducing ocular inflammation comprising administering a neutralizing agent specific for CXCL10 wherein the neutralizing agent is an antibody specific for CXCL10; and

Group II : Claims 35 through 45, directed to a method for screening for a compound for reducing ocular inflammation comprising provide the compound wherein the compound is an antibody specific for CXCL10.

The Examiner requests that one of the groups of claims be elected for examination. Applicants, with traverse, elect the claims of Group I, claims 1-34, for examination. Applicants are further requested to elect several species if Group I is elected. Applicants traverse and elect viral infection and herpes virus infection.

CONCLUSION

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 502624 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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